

OPPENHEIMER

OPPENHEIMER WOLFF & DONNELLY LLP

Plaza VII, Suite 3300
 45 South Seventh Street
 Minneapolis, MN 55402-1609
 612.607.7000
 Fax 612.607.7100

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FAX COVER LETTER**January 4, 2005**

TO: Examiner Beth Van Doren
COMPANY: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office – Art Unit 3623
PHONE: 703/305-3882
FAX: 703/872-9306

FROM: Craig J. Lervick
DIRECT DIAL: (612) 607-7387
EMAIL: CLervick@oppenheimer.com
RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/444,889
 Attorney Docket No.: 60021-336701

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date listed below.

Janet Byrne1-4-2005

Date

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PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL		Application Number	09/444,889
Address to: MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450		Filing date	November 22, 1999
		First Named Inventor	Michael G. Mikurak
		Art Unit	3623
		Examiner Name	B. Van Doren
		Attorney Docket Number	60021-336701

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCE (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

a. Previously submitted

i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on December 3, 2004.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.

b. Enclosed

i. Amendment(s)/Reply

ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. Other _____ and Returned Postcard.

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103© for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)

b. Other _____.

3. Fees

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1901.

i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e). \$790.00

ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17).

iii. Other _____.

b. Check in the amount of \$_____ enclosed.

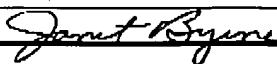
c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Craig J. Lervick	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	35,244
Signature		Date:	Jan. 4, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Janet Byne
Signature	
Date:	1-4-2005

OPPENHEIMER: 2292959 v01 12/28/2004